

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02

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P 111522Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5663

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 1848

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, NL

SUBJ: CIVAIR: MEETING WITH FONMIN VAN DER STOEL

REF: THE HAGUE 1791

1. IN AMBASSADOR'S TEMPORARY ABSENCE FROM THE HAGUE, DCM SAW FONMIN VAN DER STOEL AT NOON APRIL 11, AT VAN DER STOEL'S REQUEST, TO RECEIVE GON'S OFFICIAL REPLY TO AMBASSADOR'S APRIL 8 DEMARCHE.

2. VAN DER STOEL COINED HIS REMARKS IN FRAMEWORK OF EXCELLENT DUTCH-AMERICAN RELATIONS, WHICH HE EMPHASIZED SHOULD NOT BE DISTURBED BY FURTHER AGGRAVATION OF KLM ISSUE. TO THIS END TRANSPORTATION MINISTER WESTERTERP, WITH VAN DER STOEL'S AGREEMENT AND SUPPORT, THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE A FURTHER CONTACT WITH THE US. WESTERTERP DEFINITELY DID NOT RPT NOT HAVE IN MIND A NEW FORMAL MEETING OF DELEGATIONS. SPECIFICALLY, WESTERTERP WOULD LIKE TO MEET A HIGH-LEVEL US OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO DISCUSS THE SUBSTANCE OF THE DISPUTE. WESTERTERP WAS QUITE PREPARED TO GO TO THE US FOR THIS CONTACT WITH A PREFERENCE FOR MEETING IN NEW YORK SIMPLY TO SAVE SOME TIME FOR WESTERTERP. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO FONMIN MINISTER WESTERTERP WOULD BE WILLING TO MEET IN WASHINGTON IF THAT WERE NECESSARY FOR THE US.

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WESTERTERP DID NOT HAVE A FIXED DATE TO PROPOSE BUT

HE WAS THINKING IN TERMS OF THE END OF APRIL. HE WOULD EITHER COME ALONE OR COME WITH ONE ASSISTANT.

3. IN ENDORSING HIS COLLEAGUE'S INITIATIVE, VAN DER STOEL SAID IT WOULD BE MOST REGRETTABLE NOT TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THE KLM ISSUE. REITERATING HIS PRELIMINARY REACTION THAT THE LATEST US POSITION WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE, VAN DER STOEL APPEALED TO THE US TO SHOW MORE FLEXIBILITY. HE SAID HE GREATLY APPRECIATED WHAT THE SECRETARY HAD PERSONALLY DONE TO FIND A SOLUTION WITHOUT RANCOR BUT THE LATEST US COMMUNICATIONS WAS UNFORTUNATELY A VERY SERIOUS BLOW. IF THE US ADHERED TO IT, IT WOULD PRODUCE AN EXPLOSION OF ANGER AMONG THE DUTCH PEOPLE AND THE PARLIAMENT WHERE THE KLM ISSUE WAS A VERY SERIOUS ONE. VAN DER STOEL AGAIN REFERRED TO THE F-16, NOTING THE VEHEMENT OPPOSITION TO IT BEING EXPRESSED AT THE LABOR PARTY CONGRESS AND INDICATING THAT THE GON WOULD HAVE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE STATE OF THE KLM DISPUTE IN REACHING A FINAL DECISION ON THE F-16.

4. DCM SPEAKING PERSONALLY THANKED VAN DER STOEL FOR THIS NEW DUTCH EFFORT TO ACHIEVE A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THE KLM DISPUTE AND SAID HE WOULD TRANSMIT WESTERTERP'S PROPOSAL TO WASHINGTON IMMEDIATELY. GOULD

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